

Her face was very pale, but in her eyes was a wistful look that made him un-

"What is the matter, Winifred?" he



"You are very cruel," she said, hoursely. after a moment's pause, and almost in a whisper. This did not seem to her at all what she had meant to say, but she uttered the first words that came.

"Well," said the colonel, with a smile, "have your own way about Morn Bee. Winifred; make what bargain you like to induce her to stay. Provided you are pleased, I shall be satisfied."

Winifred attered a faint ejaculation and clasped her hands. "She has been to see me about Brer Nicholas."

The colonel started; his color came and went in violent alternations, and hesank helplessly into the nearest chair, "What does this mean?" he asked. "Capt. Fletcher"----

"And does he make a go-between of one of my old slaves?" thundered the colonel, springing to his feet. "A meddlesome puppy!

"No, father; it was Mom Bee who went to him of her own accord, for my sake, The colonel sat down again, and Winifred went on to tell the captain's story. Her father heard her without interruption; what he felt she could not divine, for, the first shock over, his countenance

gave no indication of his thoughts. "It must be true!" she exclaimed, passionately, when she had ended. "What will you do about it?"

Col. Thorne did not immediately reply. He could be as impulsive as Winifred herself, but he could not be confiding. "We have no assurance that Nicholas still lives," he said, at last,

Winifred clasped her hands. "Let us hopel" she whispered. "I am very tired, just now," the col-

onel sighed. "I will lie down until dinmer is ready,"

bitterly. How was she to know that he sought the privacy of his own room to not bring himself to say so.

Aunt Pauline and Flora.

she would scold him; but Winifred was fair, closely cut hair. Cant. Floteber; but her father did not tell | my way? her; he only hade her go to hed. He had had his ride in vain, for Capt. Fletcher "What is your name?" was away, on a long delayed visit to St. Mark's, and Col. Thorne preferred to wait voice died away in an inarticulated mur- glways my champion. And this was for an answer to the note he had left for mur.

ing without her nephew. She had prac- jured man was borne to Thorne Hill. tically forgotten him. Every hope that desired. Indeed, Miss Elvira preferred carried to Col. Thorne's house. to believe him dead, since never, never

"You don't reflect how times are congenial; she san't one of us."

"Let us find them first," said Winifred, settled afterward."

"How are you going to find them?" Miss Elviransked, with provoking meekness, "Nicholas is either dead or he has forgotten us. For my part, I'd rather again? believe him dead. He must be so

Winifred shuddered, "You are very cruel," she said, hoursely. "If my father would but have Capt. Fletcher here once, just cace, we might find some clew."

"Winifred Thornel Do you not know that if your father were to bring that man here your Aunt Pauline and your Cousin Flora never would cross this threshold acufu? It is you who are crust Think of Aleck, killed at Chickamaugal"

The tears sprang to Winifred's eyes. "It is life that is cruel," she said, sadly, "But you need not be uneasy. It is three days since Mem Bee came to us with the news about Brer Nicholas, and I asked my father yesterday if he did not intend to see Capt. Fietcher, but he said I was never to ask him that again. And I am but a girl. What can I do but assault heaven with my prayers?"

Cel. Thorne had not seen fit to acquaint his daughter with the fact that Capt. Fletcher had written to decline the invitation to visit Thorne Hill, conveyed in that note the colonel had left with Mrs. Scott a few days before.

A week later Glery-Ann took up her permanent abode at Tuorne Hill. She inhounced her willingness to accept the she was not backward in demanding the clasping her head in her hands, seaw and the pigs, nor did she hesitate to . "Dollaw, Missr," and Glory Ann, im- said the beauty, speaking of the meth

hint that a few chickens, by the way of a start, would be acceptable.

was that induced Mom Bee to return. She had been heard to tell Chaney, who was temporarily presiding over the Thorne Hill kitchen, that "sence mawster could tek care of ole Dicey, he mought jes' ez well tek care o' Glory-Anu;" and, also, she had been heard to declare that she "wouldn' give a handful o' cow pease fur dese young niggers o' freedom what had plum' los' track o' dey manners;" but if her solemn assertion was to be believed, her return was prompted solely by affection for "little Missy." She informed Mrs. Herry, when she carried back the side saddle, that she felt in duty bound to look after "dat chile." The colonel, she explained, being only a man, couldn't be expected to know how to look after a girl; "en' ez fur Missle-vireywell, Miss Myrtilla, you know Misslevirey ain't got no succullation"-what-

ever Glory-Ann might mean by that. Thus settled again at Thorne Hill, this faithful nurse kept a sharp eye upon "little Missy," admonishing that young lady as she saw fit, and criticising her visitors freely, for Missy was "sweet and twenty," now, and had admirers not a few. But the right man was slow to put in an appearance, or Glory-Ann was hard to please. This one was stingy, that one was wasteful, another had no manners-Glory-Ann was exacting as to "manners" and yet another had no money, an insuperable objection, in Glory-Ann's opin-

"I shall never marry," Winifred would say, gravely. "I am not like other girls."

No, dat you sin't, my honey, "I shall spend my life for my Brer

"Don't you go promus dat too fas' now chile; yo' time nin' come," said Mom Bee, with an nir of prophecy that gave Missy a vague uneasiness, remembering how many of Mom Bee's sayings had come to

But something happened soon that Mom Bee had never prophesied.

CHAPTER XXVI.



"He does not care!" thought Missy, "All right, sir," said the colonel. "What is mair name?

As Col. Thorne was riding homeward, hide the storm of mingled emotions that | one day, at noon, he was startled by the shook his very life? He would fain have sight of a powerful black horse, saddled reflected, with a comfortable sense of Nicholas at home again, but he could and bridled, but riderless, galloping furiously in the direction of Tallahassee; a When he reappeared at dinner he was little farther on, as he turned the corner calm, and immediately afterward he of the brier patch where old Gilbert used ordered his horse and rode away. Missy to gather sassairas roots, his own horse had extended hospitality to this soldier supposed that he was going to see her shied violently, and the colonel was of the northern army from a sense of hardly surprised to find a man lying on | duty It was long past 10 o'clock that night the edge of the road, motionless, with when the colonel returned, and it gave his head against the obtruded roots of an thim a thrill of unaccustomed joy to find overhanging oak. His face was hidden his daughter sitting up alone, to keep his by his position, but his had fallen hassee for his health, and here he was. supper warm. At most did he hope that off, revealing a well shaped head, and ill among strangers. And his mother

not actuated by auxiety on her father's The colonel dismounted, and lifting continued, addressing herself to the account; she had the utmost confidence the unconscious head, discovered the young girl, as to a more sympathetic in his ability to take care of himself; her | face of a stranger, a well dressed, well | listener; "what could I do?" object in sitting up for him was to win made man, of two or three and thirty, "You know best, of cours his favor for her brother. What unspeaks perhaps, and unmistakably a gentleman. | Scott," said Winifred, coldyable comfort it would have given her He revived, in a measure, as his head "Yes, she was my friend?" Mrs. Scott could she but have known that he had was moved to a more comfortable posi- repeated, with some asperity, feeling ridden to Tallahassee expressly to see tion, and muttered, indistinctly, "Lost that she had not received the hearty in-

the captain before saying anything to | Col. Thorne, having made a pillow of his overcoat for the stranger's head, re- ness and liberality that I enjoyed ad-The news-brought by Glory-Ann made | mounted his horse and galloped back to | vantages I could not otherwise have had. Miss Elvira very uncomfortable. She was the field, where some negrous were at She is dead now, but I don't forget all a creature of habit, and she had formed work, to order the construction of a lit-sig did for me. the habit, in the past eight years, of liv- ter of pine boughs, upon which the in-

A messenger was dispatched to town centered in him had died the day she to summon a doctor, and to leave at the and stood beside Mrs. Scott's chair; she heard of his marriage with Dosia Furni- hotel a statement in writing that an un- felt a strong, meomprehensible impulse val, and she could not see now that his known man had been found uncon- to stoop and kiss that lady, but she regeturn, granting that he lived, was to be scious, on the road near Thorne Hill, and sisted it.

Nothing was found on the stranger's again could be be the Nicholm of old, person to give any cite to his identity. She had long persuaded herself that the but had he come heralded by unimpeachcolonel would do his whole duty if he able introductions he could not have made some provision for Nicholas in his | been made more welcome. Miss Elvira will; the prospect of having Dosia and | bestirred herself with eager alacrity to her chadren at Thorne Hill was regarded | bave a room put in readings; the colonel by Miss Elvira pretty much as she might gave his personal attention to his unconhave regarded an invasion of the Bar- scious guest, using such skill as he possessed for his recovery; while Missy, watching at one of the front window changed, Winifred," she fretted. "And for the doctor, who she thought would There's no denying that Dosia cannot be never come, siched to think that there was so little she could do.

As thus she sat alone in the fast gathreddening; "all other questions can be ering gloom of the wintry evening, her thoughts wandered away to her long absent brother, who himself had been a sufferer among strangers. Alast where was he now? When should she see him Miss Winifred."

"Missy, is dat you?" It was Glory-Ann's voice that penetrated the shadows, and presently Glery-Ann's withered hand was laid on Missy's arm. "De doctor done come, honey," she said, in an awe-

"When," exclaimed Winifred, starting

up in alarm. "Bless ye' soul. 'hout a half hour ago He come de short cut, en' is gone stret Winifred, honey, he tak one look at dat man, en' he shuk his head, en' Misslevirey, when she hear dat, is plum gin up wid de headache. De grit o' de Thornes was lef outen her makeup, you better bullieve: dat bukkom I ain' tellin' Misslevirey what I gwantell you. Missy, chile, don't you know who dat upstairs?

"No," said Winifred, seized with a violent trembling. "I did not see: I could not bear to look at him; how should I

"Hit's de Fed'ral gemman," Mom Bee announced, in the voice of fate.
"Oh, Mom Boef" broke from Wini-

fred's white lips, a cry of mingled dismay, represen and disappointment; for one wild moment the baseless hope that the stranger might prove to be Nicholas house the colonel had offered her, and | faint and ill. She and a back is her chair,

patiently: "thought you wuz gwan be dat glad ter git speech wid him 'long o' It would behard to say just what it Mawse Nick? 'Pears lak you hates him mo' fur a Yankee den you kin thank him

for a frien'. I'se s'prised at you; I is dat.' "Don't let him die," said Winifred rallying with a sudden sense of satisfac tion that it had fallen to her father's lot to cancel the obligation to Capt. Fletcher on Nicholas' behalf.

"Don't you be no ways oneasy," said Glory-Ann. "Doctors got away o' shakin' dev heads; hit meks 'em 'pear lak de know mo'n de do. He gwan git over it, honey; but it gwan be a tough pull, I'm

Dr. Lane now came in, rubbing his hands, and Glory-Ann precipitately retired, to give her attention to the supper table, seeing that Miss Elvira was incapacitated.

"Well," said the doctor, brusquely, "here's a queer state of things! Suppose you've no idea who your guest is? Nobody less than that Yankee, Fletcher, whom your father declined to receive. Odd, isn't it, that the colonel had never even seen him? Good joke, eh, Miss But Winifred did not even smile. "Is

he badly hurt?" she asked, gravely. "Pretty serious case;" and Dr. Lane went into details that Winifred could not understand. "So, you see, you may have

him on your hands for some time to come," he continued, in conclusion, "But we'll save him, if we can, eh, Miss Winifred, though he is a Yankee?"

Winifred made no reply; but the colonel, who had come in a moment before, said, a little stiffly:

"It is an unfortunate occurrence, much to be regretted. We must hope that the accident may have no untoward ending.

"Look out, Miss Winifred!" cried Dr. Lane, laughing. Winifred was very angry. "There is

no occasion to say that to me!" she re-"Well, I hope you won't find him an insurmountably objectionable guest," said Dr. Lane, good humoredly. "He is a friend of your aunt's, I understand,

"Yes," the colonel answered, still with stiffness; "but under the circumstances any man would be entitled to my hospitality, sir."

This was a sentiment in which Miss Elvira fully concurred, though she was dismayed beyond measure when she learned who was the guest an untoward accident had sent to Thorne Hill, "It is really a great embarrassment," she lamented to Winifred. "Of course, your Aunt Pauline and Flora can't come to see

"It isn't a matter of choice to have Capt. Flatcher here," said Winifred, with an impatient sigh.

"That is true," Miss Elvira agreed, in a tone of relief. "We had, indeed, no | Berliner Bosrsen-Courier. " choice; it was altogether providential." This view of the situation she repeat-

ed to Mrs. Theodore Scott, who called the next day. It had been Mrs. Theodore Scott's deliberate choice to have Capt. Fletcher at her house, Miss Elvira superlority. Mrs. Theodore Scott, with heightenes,

color, bastened to assure Miss Elvira. that she likewise had had no choice; she

"I know very well that people have thought hard of me," she said, tearfully: was my friend, dear Miss Winifred," she

"All right, sir," said the colonel, fired. "I was a poor, friendless little thing at school, and Adelaide Hardy, There was an effort to answer, but the who was a good deal older than I, was not all; her father was rich and mine was poor, and it was through her kind-

"No," said Winifred, "you could not forget that." She rose and moved restlessly about the room, and at last came

"I am a southerner, and I have the sentiments of a southerner," Mrs. Scott continued, with some excitoment, "as Capt. Fletcher knows: but I receive him for his dear mother's sake; and this I can say for him-he is a gentleman." "Of course," said Winifred, crisply. "My Aust Winifred's friend must be a

gentleman." "If it had not been for the war!" Mrs. Scott exclaimed, with a bitter sigh. "As my husband says, Capt. Fletcher has come too late for the old times, and too soon for the new. Mr. Scott, you know, dear Miss Elvira, is such a sufferer from that wound he received at Shiloh-bardly ever leaves the house, and the captain is so kind about playing chess with him. Of course we avoid all discussions of the war, and so I would advise you to do,

"I have no wish to discuss any subject with him, except my brother Nicholas." Winifred replied coldly,

To be Continued.

A Ciri's Way of Gesting Even. A fundionable decree having a house on lifth avenue prides himself upon the favor this respect he is decidedly unadmirable. but his skill as a physician enables him to unstairs, by de back de'. Tell you, Miss rank high in his prefession despite his conmons to call on a young woman famed for her beauty. She was a new patient for him, and, as he arranged his cravat with extra precisian before entering his carriage, he fancied himself on the brink of an sual conquest. Reaching the house, he was shown into the reception room, where, a moment later, he was joined by the beautiful mirl whom he had been called to at

"Ah!" exclaimed he, rising to greet her, "you are not, then, ill enough to be in

"Oh, I am not ill at all," cried the girl. "Some other member of the family?" asked the doctor, rather disappointed. "Well," said the young lady, "we call him one of the family. You see it is my little fox terrier, Dixie. He has a bone in his throat and I thought you might be able

With freezing dignity the doctor got out of the bouse as quickly as he could.
"He had expressed a desire to meet me,"

afterward to a friend, "and he did so in a very insulting way. I was told of it, and I decided to give him an opportunity to form my acquaintance." — Clara Belle's New York I decided. York Letter.

For a Bedroom Door,

Have any of you a homespun blanket? This relic of our grandmothers used to be about one yard wide, and it was necessary o seam two together to make a bed covering of sufficient width. The material has good artistic possibilities, and, as I sug-gest, is "for a bedroom door" apropos. If yours has no border across the ends, work one in the style of long ago, in a large cross stitch, a band across top and bottom Work one band on one side of the blanket and the other on the other side, so when the top is turned over to form a valance both bands of cross stitch will be on the right side.

Buttonhole the hem of your valance with coarse stitch; into these, at intervals, tie large rings, which are covered by being crocheted over with heavy flax thread of a duil blue hue. Into the rings tie the lengths of the thread to form tassels. Mix two or three shades of the thread in making these. Then, if you have fallen heir to a piece of old brocade, cut from it any of the figures or flowers which your taste may suggest, and apply them, in a scattered manner, to your hanging. Couch the edges of these igures with a coarse gilt thread or cord.

In default of the brocade, procure a piece of flax velour from an upholstery store, and cut from it your figures. These are usually to be found in rich designs. This will be found to be quick work, while exceedingly novel in effect and pleasing, the treatment being so purely conventional.—Exchange.

Bunting Eggs in Germany. In the court news of the first Easter hol-Iday was the announcement: "After breaklast the emperor and empress went out to Bellevus to hunt Easter eggs." This egg hunting was accompanied with some curious and interesting scenes. The general field marshal, Count Moltke, had been invited by the emperer to take part in the sport, and appeared in the afternoon at Custle Bellevce with a big basket of col-ored eggs. The emperor and empress and the old field marshal hid the eggs, and then followed the little princes about in the shrubbery to watch them capture the gay prizes. That lasted three-quarters of

At length the children were called in and the empress hid some magnificently decorated eggs for the great Moltke himself. The famous strategist concentrated every one of his wits on the egg hunt. Indeed, he was not ashamed to pick his way on his hands and knees through the flower gar dens, where the empress had concealed most of the eggs. He worked conscientiously till almost 6 o'clock. At 6 the pe destrians in the Thiograrten saw the emperor and empress leave the castle with Moltke in his carriage close behind them. On the seat beside the dignified field marshal was a big basketful of fancy colored engs. Every one staged at the eggs and wondered how they got on the same seat with Count Molkke, but few, if any, guessed that his venerable excellency had carned them with the sweat of his brow.-

Salvationists in Trouble. The authorities of Des Molnes, Is., are opparently as little fu sympathy with the Selvation army as they are with the liquor traffic. The followers of Gen. Booth recently paraded the streets with horns and frums in defiance of a municipal order. When arrested they made the court room resound with shouts and songs and pray-But the police judge punished them

John B. Carr, of New York city, has to pay alimony of \$3 weekly to his wife Kate. To fulfill the obligation he recently left 300 cents with a court clerk. Mrs. Carr took the pennies with the philosophic remark; "I don't care. Three dollars is three

all the same.

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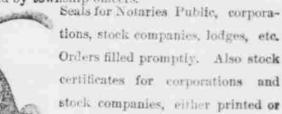
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